

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application as amended herein. Claim 5 has been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 6, and 11 have been amended. Claims 1-3, 6-8, and 10-14 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,303,336 issued to Kageyama in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,141,681 issued to Kyle.

Claim 1 recites the following:

providing unformatted data to said viewing entity, said data comprising one or more unformatted data portions to be converted into a format viewable to said viewer;

providing, together with the unformatted data portions, a plurality of formatters for said viewer, each of which is capable of formatting one or more of said unformatted data portions into said format viewable to said viewer;

locating said formatters by said viewer for each of said unformatted data portions, said formatters plug-able into said viewer; and

formatting each of said unformatted data portions by said located formatters to said format viewable to said viewer.

Kageyama discloses a printing system in which a plurality of terminals are connected to a print server for printing document data via a network. Kyle discloses a data transfer system that includes a first computer to generate a data package having a data portion and an instruction portion and a second computer to receive the data package and process the data portion in accordance with the instruction portion. Neither Kageyama nor Kyle discloses providing unformatted data to be converted into a format viewable by the viewer and providing a plurality of formatters plug-able into the viewer together with the unformatted data portions. These limitations are recited in claim 1. Therefore, Applicants submit that no combination of Kageyama and Kyle renders claim 1 obvious.

Claims 2-3 are dependent claims and distinguish for at least the same reasons as their independent base claim in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 2-3 are patentable over Kageyama and Kyle for at least the reasons set forth above.

Claims 6-8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kageyama in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,511,156 issued to Nagasaka.

Claim 6 recites the following:

providing unformatted data to each of said viewers, said unformatted data including a plurality of unformatted data portions;
providing a plurality of formatters, each of which is capable of formatting one or more unformatted data portions into at least one format viewable to at least one of said viewers;
locating by each viewer, for each unformatted data portion to be viewable to said viewer, a formatter capable of converting said each unformatted data portion to a format viewable to said viewer; and
formatting said each unformatted data portion by said located formatter to said format viewable to said viewer.

As discussed above, Kageyama discloses a printing system in which a plurality of terminals are connected to a print server for printing document data via a network. Nagasaka discloses an interpreter for executing rasterize processing to obtain printing picture element information. Neither Kageyama nor Nagasaka discloses providing unformatted data to each of the viewers and providing a plurality of formatters to convert the unformatted data to a format viewable by each of the viewers. These limitations are recited in claim 6. Therefore, Applicants submit that no combination of Kageyama and Nagasaka renders claim 6 obvious.

Claims 7-8 and 10 are dependent claims and distinguish for at least the same reasons as their independent base claim in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 7-8 and 10 are patentable over Kageyama and Nagasaka for at least the reasons set forth above.

Claims 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kageyama.

Claim 11 recites the following:

conversion means for converting said unformatted data portions into a format viewable to said viewer, said conversion means being separately located from said viewer;
identifying means for identifying each of said unformatted data portions; and
locating means for said viewer to locate, using said identifying means, said conversion means for each of said unformatted data.

As discussed above, Kageyama discloses a printing system in which a plurality of terminals are connected to a print server for printing document data via a network. Kageyama does not disclose conversion means that are separately located from the viewer for converting said unformatted data portions into a format viewable to the viewer. These limitations are recited in claim 11. Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 11 is patentable over Kageyama.

Claims 12-14 are dependent claims and distinguish for at least the same reasons as their independent base claim in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 12-14 are patentable over Kageyama for at least the reasons set forth above.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks set forth above, Applicants submit that claims 1-3, 6-8, and 10-14 are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number
02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: 2/25/04

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